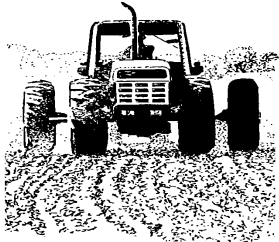




TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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Record-Breaking Heat Grips West Tennessee

Record temperatures and dry conditions took a toll on crops and pastures in West Tennessee last week. These conditions led to an accelerated pace of corn harvest and rapid maturation of the cotton crop. Middle and East Tennessee also had above normal temperatures, but did get some relief from showers the latter half of the week. The soybean crop slipped in rating but fortunately most of the crop remains in fair condition. Rainfall is needed soon. Tobacco growers beared the scorching elements and continued harvest at a rate more rapid than usual. Pastures are also suffering and are now rated mostly fair to poor. In many areas, producers are feeding hay and hauling water. There were six days considered suitable for field work during this past week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 26 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 30 percent adequate. This is the poorest topsoil moisture this season but not as severe as this same time one year ago. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 32 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 25 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 3, 2000

CROP CONDITION: On September 1, 2000

Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Dent	95	85	99	95	Soybeans	7	21	38	29	5
Corn - Mature	76	50	86	65	Cotton	2	13	42	40	3
Corn - Grain Harvested	29	15	46	20	Tobacco	3	7	25	53	12
Corn Silage - Harvested	79	68	77	68	Pastures	16	24	36	22	2
Soybeans - Setting Pods	94	80	92	88	Cattle	2	9	30	51	8
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	15	5	15	7						
Cotton - Bolls Opening	63	28	67	36						
Cotton - Defoliated	14	N/A	8	N/A						
Tobacco - Topped	94	91	97	93						
Burley - Harvested	59	44	62	49						
Dark Air - Harvested	68	51	76	64						
Dark Fire - Harvested	64	45	69	59						

CORN: Hot, dry weather has hastened the maturity (dry down) of corn allowing harvest progress to exceed the five-year average pace. Yield reports continued to be highly variable ranging from excellent to poor. A few producers have encountered harvesting difficulty due to wind damage from earlier storms.

SOYBEANS: The soybean crop is showing dry weather stress and needs rainfall soon, especially the double crop beans. The condition rating has dropped from mostly good to mostly fair. Virtually all soybean acreage would benefit from rainfall. Crop yield potential ranges from a portion of the crop in the very poor to poor class to some good to excellent. The best soybeans are those early full-season beans and the wheat-beans in Middle and Northwest Tennessee that have been fortunate enough to receive precipitation in the last ten days. Early harvest of group three beans has begun with the majority of the crop setting pods and filling.

TOBACCO: Steady harvest progress was made last week in the peak summer heat. The tobacco, however, has been difficult to handle because of it’s high moisture content. Growers commented that they will need to be careful in managing the curing process as conditions are ripe for “sweating”.

COTTON: Bolls are opening rapidly and defoliation is the main activity. Harvest should begin in earnest in ten days. Cotton development has been slowed mainly due to the extreme heat and lack of a “good” August rain. Maturity is about a week to ten days ahead of normal, but only a few days behind last season. The crop certainly accumulated sufficient heat units during August.

PASTURES, HAY & CATTLE: Cattle are showing stress but are rated in predominately good condition. Some supplemental feeding and hauling of water is occurring.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 09/03/00 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 09/03/00				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	09/03/00	Days	April 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	105	69	85	+11	0.00	0	17.54	-4.36	2270	+216
Bristol	85	58	74	+3	0.16	4	20.29	+1.79	1487	+70
Brownsville_TN	104	72	86	+11	0.00	0	16.25	-5.68	2336	+510
Chattanooga	93	69	79	+3	2.53	5	24.00	+3.07	2309	+359
Clarksville_Sew	96	69	82	+8	0.08	1	24.04	+3.09	2197	+358
Cookeville	93	58	76	+4	0.76	4	23.77	-0.44	1681	+523
Covington	103	69	86	+11	0.00	0	18.95	-2.11	2358	+261
Crossville_AP	90	64	75	+5	0.67	3	24.89	+1.29	1553	+239
Dickson_AG	96	66	79	+5	0.02	1	19.33	-3.50	1841	-78
Dover_1W	99	68	80	+7	0.00	0	22.58	+0.64	1953	+319
Dyersburg	102	70	84	+9	0.00	0	19.49	-1.84	2271	+46
Erwin_1W	86	59	74	+5	0.44	3	23.75	+0.10	1471	-213
Huntingdon_Wate	101	68	83	+9	0.00	0	19.76	-2.30	1750	+6
Jackson_AG	102	69	84	+9	0.00	0	17.67	-4.44	2194	+189
Kingston_AG	91	65	78	+6	0.37	2	21.92	-2.52	1943	+424
Knoxville_AP	90	64	78	+5	0.38	2	23.66	+3.78	1946	+251
Lewisburg	100	61	78	+5	0.63	3	19.19	-3.71	1809	+99
Lexington_TN	104	68	84	+9	0.00	0	19.34	-2.02	2157	+914
Linden	105	64	81	+8	0.09	2	17.78	-5.29	1939	+222
Martin	104	69	84	+10	0.06	2	20.71	-2.06	2139	+212
Mc_Minnville_Tn	91	66	77	+4	0.26	3	21.32	-0.96	1871	-257
Memphis_AG	104	70	87	+9	0.00	0	15.60	-5.93	2417	-62
Milan	104	63	81	+7	0.00	0	16.33	-6.88	1852	-28
Murfreesboro_5N	95	67	79	+5	1.45	3	23.48	+0.78	1887	-228
Nashville	97	70	81	+6	0.35	2	19.79	-0.79	2209	+196
Newcomb	90	61	75	+6	0.29	3	21.86	-2.32	1545	+307
Oneida	90	61	75	+5	0.63	2	22.27	-1.91	1442	-366
Pikeville	92	64	78	+5	0.19	3	17.17	-4.33	1842	+176
Portland_TN	91	63	79	+6	0.08	2	21.25	-1.07	1920	+249
Pulaski_Water_P	99	64	79	+4	0.11	2	22.80	+0.74	1988	-20
Savannah_6SW	103	69	85	+10	0.00	0	17.77	-5.42	2410	+638
Sparta_TN	92	65	78	+5	0.40	3	27.62	+4.26	1821	+377
Springfield	94	64	78	+6	0.37	2	20.59	-0.67	1829	+149
Springhill	98	66	80	+7	0.32	4	19.36	-3.73	2026	+318
Union_City	101	66	82	+9	0.10	2	19.67	-2.28	1978	+108

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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